The maps and tables in this publication were prepared using PCensus for MapInfo and MapInfo Professional.
Grant County is located in North Central Indiana. It is bordered by the following counties: Delaware to the south/southeast, Madison to the south, Tipton to the southwest, Howard to the west, Miami to the northwest, Wabash and Huntington to the north. Interstate Highway 69, U.S. Highway 35 and State Highway 18 cross the county. Elevation is 750-950 feet. Terrain is nearly level, except slightly sloping near the many creeks and the Mississinewa River. The landscape features beech, birch, maple, oak and hickory trees. The county pertains to the Indiana and Ohio Till Plain land resource area. Central Mississippi Valley Wooded Slopes land resource area, except the southern corner which is part of the Kentucky and Indiana Sandstone and Shale Hills and Valleys land resource area.

Grant county is in the Eastern Time Zone and observes DST. Average daily temperatures are 16°/33° in January and 61°/85° in July. Annual precipitation is about 37 and snowfall about 37 inches.

Typically the first freeze of the season occurs October 10-15, except in the northeast corner where it is October 5-10. The last freeze is usually between May 1 – 5. The growing season lasts about 158-168 days.

Agricultural activity is diversified. About three-fourths of the land is farmland of which over four-fifths is commercial crops. Main crops are corn for grain, soybeans, hay and winter wheat. Apples are a primary fruit, tomatoes a primary vegetable. Livestock includes hens/pullets, cattle/calves, milk cows, and hogs/pigs. Main natural resources include sand and gravel for both construction and industry, crushed stone, petroleum, and forestland. Water resources include Edwin Blinn, Kilgore, Sports, and Wagner Lakes; Lake Galacia; and the Mississinewa River.

Communities include the cities of Marion (the county seat) and Gas City. Towns include Converse (which extends into Miami County), Fairmount, Fowlerton, Jonesboro, Matthews, Swayzee, Sweetser, Upland, and Van Buren.

Sources: Map from PCensus for MapInfo; Geographic Notes from Indiana Facts: Flying the Colors by John Clements, 1995.
Famous sons and daughters of Grant County include movie star James Dean, Jim Davis, and Wayne and Kim Seybold.

James Dean (1931-1951), born in Marion, who starred in *East of Eden* (1954), *Rebel Without a Cause* (1955), and *Giant* (1956). Cartoonist Jim Davis (1945-), createds “Garfield.” Davis’ company is located on a farm near Muncie. Wayne and Kim Seybold were Olympic figure skaters from Marion, who became internationally known in the 1988 Winter Olympics for their courage in overcoming injuries and poverty.


Grant County is not a tobacco-producing county, according to the Strategic Development Group’s “Alternative Agricultural Strategy” (Bloomington, March 15, 2001) report, which is part of Governor Joseph E. Kernan’s “Recipient Final Reports for Office of the Commissioner of Agriculture Grant Programs” ([http://www.in.gov/oca/grants/valueadd//VAFinalReports.html](http://www.in.gov/oca/grants/valueadd//VAFinalReports.html)):